

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of Checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Chapter 43.21 RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for Applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring the preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the question from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply". Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe the your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or to provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (Part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: **Update of Forestry Handbook of Silviculture procedures (and internal references to these procedures).** The update involves a comprehensive restructuring of several procedures to where silvicultural activities are addressed holistically rather than as separate and competing entities. The restructuring substitutes existing PRs 14-005-010 (FMU Objectives), 14-005-060 (Silvicultural Prescriptions), 14-005-030 (Prioritizing Stands for Old and Small-Wood Thinnings), 14-006-050 (Precommercial Thinning), 14-006-060 (Pruning), and 14-006-070 (Westside Small-Wood Thinning) with revised PRs 14-005-010 (FMU Objectives) and 14-005-005-060 (Silvicultural Prescriptions) while combining the remainder into a revised PR 14-005-030 (Stand Tending) and publishing a new PR 14-006-010 (Reforestation).

2. Name of applicant: **Land Management Division, Department of Natural Resources**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **Pete Holmberg, 360-902-1348**

4. Date checklist prepared: **July 30, 2003**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **Department of Natural Resources**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **If these procedures are approved as proposed, DNR will issue cancellation notices and remove rescinded procedures and publish new procedures in the Forestry handbook within 30 days**
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. **The development of objectives and related prescriptions, along with reforestation and stand tending (or management) actions, will be related to, and work in concert with other land management activities. Site-specific silvicultural activities will be based on these proposed procedures if approved.**

The sustainable harvest calculation assumes certain levels of silvicultural activities for each alternative. These procedures facilitate implementation of these alternatives, but do not directly impact the sustainable harvest calculation process. In other words, these proposed changes have no impact on the harvest level numbers for any alternative.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. **The department incorporates by reference under WAC 197-11-635(2) the following documents: Forest Resource Plan FEIS, July, 1992; Section 5.1 – introduction to Silviculture Policy alternatives; Section 5.2 – Discussion of silviculture policy alternatives, including Silviculture Activities (policy 30), Harvest and Reforestation Methods (Policy 31), Green-up of Harvest Units (Policy 32), Control of Competing Vegetation (Policy 33), and Fertilizing, Thinning, and Pruning (Policy 34); Habitat Conservation Plan DEIS (March 1996) and FEIS (October, 1996); Chapter IV – Affected Environment, specifically the five west-side planning units, excluding the OESF. This chapter describes the affected environment and the environmental consequences related to the HCP and alternatives. Both of these documents are available from the DNR. In addition to referenced EISs, the DNR will continue to complete SEPA reviews on a project-by-project basis, if required.**
9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain. **Yes. The DNR conducts numerous land management activities on approximately 2.1 million acres of state lands covered by this proposed non-project action. The most notable example is timber sales, a type of activity that generates most silvicultural activities either in short order (preparation of the site for reforestation, reforestation, and control of competing vegetation) or decades later (thinning, pruning).**
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. **None**
11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agency may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) **The proposal is a non-project action that seeks to revise and restructure the DNR's silvicultural procedures. These procedures apply to the approximately 2.1 million acres of forested lands under DNR's management.**

Silviculture is the development and care of forests. "Silvicultural" in this context pertains to activities that DNR field staff may conduct in order to achieve the desired future forest condition for a particular forest stand.

The proposal involves the consolidation of several existing procedures. It seeks to simplify the procedures, and make them more sensitive to local needs and conditions. The goal of the proposal is to have a more versatile set of procedures that are more readily adaptable to site-specific conditions, and to make the procedures more clear and concise, so that staff can more easily implement them.

Specifically, the existing procedures PRs 14-005-010 (FMU Objectives), 14-005-060 (Silvicultural Prescriptions), 14-005-030 (Prioritizing Stands for Old and Small-Wood Thinnings), 14-006-050

(Precommercial Thinning), 14-006-060 (Pruning), and 14-006-070 (Westside Small-Wood Thinning), will be replaced by PRs 14-005-010 (FMU Objectives), 14-005-005-060 (Silvicultural Prescriptions), PR 14-005-030 (Stand Tending), and adding PR 14-006-010 (Reforestation). The existing procedures and the proposed revised procedures are attached to and accompany this SEPA checklist.

The intent of both the existing and revised procedures remains the same – to describe the activities the DNR foresters may employ in order to achieve the desired future condition of a forest stand. The proposed procedures articulate the process more clearly, and provide greater flexibility to adapt to site-specific conditions.

12. Location of proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographical map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any applications related to this checklist. **These are departmental procedures that apply to the approximately 2.1 million acres of DNR-managed forested trust lands in the state of Washington.**

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth—there is generally no distinction between existing and proposed procedures, except possibly under f. and h. This is a non-project proposal.
 - a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountains, other: **As a non-project proposal, there is no “site“. The area covered by these procedures are the approximately 2.1 million acres of state trust forest uplands managed by the DNR. These forest trust lands occur throughout the state, from the Pacific Ocean to the Pend Oreille and Blue Mountains and from the Canadian to the Oregon border. Elevation-wise, forest trust lands that are suitable for management range from sea level to higher elevations in the various mountain massifs in the state.**
 - b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **As a non-project proposal, there is no “site“. Slopes on the DNR’s approximately 2.1 million acres of DNR-managed forest trust lands vary from flat or gently rolling to over 90 percent.**
 - c. What general types of soils (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland. **As a non-project proposal, there is no “site“. A large number of soils are found on DNR-managed forest trust lands. Soils suitable for commercial forest management (i.e., generally that part of the forested land base to which the proposed procedures apply) are in most cases forest types, moist to dry, and if moist, generally well drained.**
 - d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. . **This is a non-project proposal. There is no “immediate vicinity“.**
 - e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. **N/A**
 - f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **There are no activities in the proposed action that would be designed to cause erosion. To the extent that erosion could occur as a result of silvicultural activities implemented following adoption of the new procedures (road construction and maintenance in support of silvicultural activities thinning yarding trails vegetation management with herbicides, forest health initiatives with insecticides or fungicides, and timber harvest in pursuit of ecological seral sub-climax restoration) these hazards will be identified and avoided or mitigated through individual project, site-specific SEPA reviews for non-exempt activities.**
 - g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? **As a non-project proposal, there is no “site“. Generally, silvicultural treatments occur**

subsequent to timber harvest activities. Exceptions may exist from time to time, such as when a road spur (graveled roads are considered impervious) is added to an existing road system for thinning or fertilization access.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: **When DNR conducts silvicultural activities that may cause erosion, or involve road construction, site-specific SEPA review for individual projects is performed in conformance with provisions of forest practices regulations, the habitat conservation plan, and the forest resource plan. Site specific impacts are generally avoided or minimized to the extent possible, by project design. Under proposed procedures silvicultural activities would be appropriately adapted to site-specific characteristics.**

2. Air – This is a non-project proposal.

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from this proposal (i.e. dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. **There are no activities generated by the proposed procedures that increase emission to the air over the existing procedures. Minor amounts of exhaust fumes from vehicles and engines associated with silvicultural activities will be produced. Likewise, vegetation management with herbicides and forest health activities with various pesticides will, under proposed as well as existing procedures, generate mists in the air for some minutes after which they descend onto, and are metabolized by, intended vegetation or pathogens and/or the soil. Future SEPA reviews will address emissions in site-specific project analyses.**

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **No**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: **The proposed set of procedures contribute to accelerated growth of forest trees and subsequent sequestration of atmospheric carbon, which has a direct impact on total emissions in the air. Some scientific studies indicate large biomass forest stands do more to improve air quality than small, young stands. Site-specific SEPA review for individual projects will continue to address these potential impacts for non-exempt activities.**

3. Water – This is a non-project proposal.

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, and wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. **As a non-project proposal, there is no “site“. The approximately 2.1 million acres of DNR-managed forest trust lands contain numerous lakes, streams and wetlands.**

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. **See 1), above. Silvicultural activities on state forest uplands will affect areas within 200 feet of described waters. These activities include reforestation, vegetation control, and thinning, and will be typically designed to alter stand structure to accelerate development of older forest conditions in riparian areas.**

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of the fill material. **Not applicable.**

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **No.**

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100 year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. **This is a non-project proposal. Once the procedures that are proposed are implemented, it is likely that silvicultural activities will occur within 100-year floodplains. However, site-specific project SEPA reviews will address related environmental issues as these future projects are developed, and the proposed procedures are no different in their type or level of impact to surface water within 100 year floodplains than are the existing procedures.**

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. **This is a non-project proposal. No future silvicultural activity implementing the proposed procedures will involve deliberate discharge of waste materials into surface waters, although situations may exist from time to time where small quantities of fertilizer, herbicides, or pesticides may accidentally enter surface waters. However, proposed procedures are, in this respect, no different from existing procedures. Site-specific project SEPA reviews will address related environmental issues as these future projects are developed.**

b. Ground:

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **No.**

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals . . .; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. **Not applicable.**

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. **This is a non-project proposal. Once the procedures that are proposed are implemented, there may be short-term potential increases in peak flows resulting from silvicultural activities, such as thinnings or patch cuts. These possibilities will be assessed and mitigated through site-specific project SEPA reviews (and/or other types of reviews), as required. The proposed procedures are no different in their type or level of impact to surface water runoff than are the existing procedures.**

2) Could waste material enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. **See 3a6 above.**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any: **This proposal is non-project in nature, but future silvicultural activities typically initiate and accelerate forest stand development, which intercept rain and snow, and provide roots for ground water filtration. Accidental spills of waste materials or chemicals used in silvicultural activities will be managed according to DOE rules and regulations. Site-specific SEPA review for individual projects will specify control measures, as required. The proposed procedures direct no change from existing procedures in this regard.**

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site: **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project "site". On the approximately 2.1 million acres of DNR-managed forest trust lands it is likely that every native deciduous and coniferous tree, shrub, grass, and other native plants will occur. Pasture, agricultural crops are outside the scope of proposed procedures, except in cases of afforestation.**

- ☐ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☐ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ☐ shrubs
- ☐ grass
- ☐ pasture
- ☐ crop or grain
- ☐ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other
- ☐ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- ☐ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? **Silvicultural activities, as conducted under proposed procedures, will reforest harvested stands, provide exclusively for native species by locality, and**

manage tree growth to reach forest management objectives. Forest understory species are often also subject to a degree of disturbance that occurs along with silvicultural activities. Unlike existing procedures, the proposal links silvicultural activities in a manner more closely tied to site-specific needs. Site-specific SEPA reviews will assess future activities on a project-by-project basis, as required.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”.** There are a number of threatened or endangered species on DNR-managed forest lands. The DNR’s heritage database is used to identify locations of these species in relation to planned activities. Site-specific project SEPA assessments and reviews will further address listed species, as required. The proposed procedures have no greater impact to threatened or endangered plant species than the existing procedures.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”.** These procedures involve reforestation, tending, and thinning and, as such, enhance vegetation growth and stand development in forests. The proposed procedure on reforestation specifies not only use of native plants, but requires seed stocks that preserve the native genetic pool on a site-specific basis for commercial tree species removed by harvest operations. Further concerns of this nature will be addressed in site-specific SEPA project reviews, as required.

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site: **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”.** All fauna native to the approximately 2.1 million acres of DNR-managed forest trust lands are likely to be present thereon, at least occasionally.

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”, however, federally listed threatened or endangered species do exist in DNR-managed forestlands, and are addressed in the DNR’s Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Areas outside of the HCP area are managed under the requirements of the state Forest Practices Act and the federal Endangered Species Act. Site-specific project SEPA reviews will further address threatened and endangered species, as required. The proposed procedures have no greater impact to threatened or endangered animals than the current procedures.**

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”, however, migration routes do exist on DNR-managed forest lands, and will be addressed in site-specific project SEPA reviews, as required. The proposed procedures will not have any different impact on migration routes than the existing procedures.**

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **Site-specific SEPA review for individual projects will address these issues in conformance with the DNR’s Habitat Conservation Plan and existing statutes. Silvicultural activities are performed to enhance and accelerate forest stands, which provide economic as well as environmental benefits. By creating habitat quicker, silvicultural activities directly preserve and enhance wildlife and wildlife habitat.**

6. Energy and Natural Resources

a. What kinds of energy (electrical, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc **None.**

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. **No.**

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: **None.**

7. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. **This is a non-project action. See 3a6. Although some risk is inherent in future, site-specific silvicultural activities, the proposed procedures incorporate no change in this regard from existing procedures.**

1) Describe any emergency services that might be required. **N/A**

2) Propose measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: **None – this proposal is the adoption of procedures for silvicultural activities in which proposed procedures incorporate no change in this regard from existing procedures.**

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? **None.**

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”. Silvicultural activities, which might occur in the future generally, generate some noise above natural forest levels during daylight hours. Noises, however, typically occur in remote forest locations and are not changed from existing to proposed procedures.**

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **None – this proposal is the adoption of procedures for silvicultural activities.**

8. Land and Shoreline Use –**no change in type or level of impacts to land or shoreline uses from existing to proposed procedures.**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”. The majority of forestlands managed by DNR, and adjacent forest lands, are in a land classification for growth and harvest of forest resources.**

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”. Only DNR-managed forest trust lands are addressed within the scope of proposed procedures, with exception of occasional small amounts of agricultural land subject to afforestation.**

c. Describe any structures on the site. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”. On DNR lands generally, structures such as communications buildings and antennae, automatic weather stations, and other remote site structures are present. These are typically confined to small parcels of land withdrawn from silvicultural management.**

d. Will any structures be demolished? if so, what? **N/A**

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? **N/A**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **N/A**

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? **N/A**

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project "site". Generally speaking, for future silvicultural activities, Forest Practices rules govern operation in environmentally sensitive areas. Any silvicultural activities in "environmentally sensitive" areas, to include HCP-designated special habitat areas, will be addressed in site-specific project SEPA reviews, as required. The proposed procedures have no greater impact to environmentally sensitive areas than the existing procedures.**
- i. **Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? N/A**
- j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? None.**
- k. **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: NA.**
- l. **Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: None – this proposal is the adoption of procedures for silvicultural activities.**

9. Housing

- a. **Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle or low-income housing. Not applicable.**
- b. **Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. Not applicable.**
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: Not applicable.**

10. Aesthetics

- a. **What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? Not applicable.**
- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? N/A - This is a non-project action.**
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: N/A**

11. Light and Glare

- a. **What kind of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? Not applicable.**
- b. **Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? Not applicable.**
- c. **What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? Not applicable.**
- d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: Not applicable.**

12. Recreation

- a. **What designated and informal recreation opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? Because this is a non-project action, there is no "immediate vicinity". DNR-managed lands typically include dispersed recreation opportunities. Developed sites, such as campgrounds, trail heads, and trails are primitive in nature.**
- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. The proposed procedures have no effect on DNR's recreational use policies, and will not displace any recreational activities.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreational opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: **None**

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”. Throughout the state’s approximately 2.1 million acres of DNR-managed forest trust lands there are historic, archaeological, and cultural sites. Many of these sites are listed on the DNR’s database. The proposed procedures have no greater impact to historic or cultural resources than the existing procedures.**
- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe. **Once the procedures are implemented through site-specific actions, these will be described in site-specific SEPA reviews, as required.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any: **The DNR is a signatory to the Centennial Accord, which provides for protection of cultural sites within a government-to-government agreement. Site-specific activities will be evaluated within the commitments of that accord, and any individual tribal agreements. The activities will also be evaluated and addressed on a site-specific basis, within the commitments of the Habitat Conservation Plan and the requirements of Forest Practices rules.**

14. **Transportation—no change in impacts from existing to proposed procedures**

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans if any. **Because this is a non-project action, there is no project “site”. Forest roads are constructed to conduct timber harvest and silvicultural activities covered in proposed procedures. Most of these forest management roads are gravel or dirt surface.**
- b. Is the site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? **Not applicable.**
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? **Not applicable**
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). **This is a non-project proposal.**
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. **This is a non-project proposal.**
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur. **This is a non-project proposal.**
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: **This is a non-project proposal. Site-specific project SEPA reviews will further address such issues, as required.**

15. **Public Services**

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. **Not applicable.**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. **None.**

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other. **Not applicable.**

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. **None.**

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: /signed Aug 11, 2003/ (Pete Holmberg, Ass't Div Mgr, Silv & Regen)

Review by: /signed Aug 11, 2003/ (John Baarspul)

Title: Manager, Land Management Division

Date: /signed Aug 11, 2003/

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(Do not use this sheet for project action)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise? **Some silvicultural activities that implement the proposed procedures (e.g., thinnings, vegetation management, fertilization) may have short-term impacts on soil water budgets, air quality, and general cleanliness of the environment. However, the proposed procedures are expected to have no, to possibly some degree of beneficial, effects over existing procedures in that greater flexibility is afforded field foresters to respond to site-specific characteristics. This increased flexibility will translate into beneficial impacts through a more site-specific ability to apply silvicultural activities within the guidance of rotation-length objectives.**

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are: **Silvicultural activities that implement these procedures all meet or exceed the minimum regulatory requirements in the Forest Practices Act. Site-specific review of these activities also occurs, and if further mitigation is necessary to avoid or reduce significant impacts, these additional resources are employed.**

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish or marine life? **Silvicultural activities that implement the proposed procedures involve forest management, including harvest of timber through thinnings. Such activities also include reforestation, vegetation management, and density management to encourage new forest stand development. Such activities impact, on a local, site-specific basis, the plants, animals, and fish found at the site. The proposed procedures have no greater impact to plants, animals, or fish, than the current procedures. The proposal has no impacts on marine life.**

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are: **Silvicultural activities that implement these procedures all meet or exceed the minimum regulatory requirements in the Forest Practices Act. As forest stands develop under the direction of these procedures, habitat for a variety of**

native flora and fauna is created, which conserves that resource. Along forest streams and wetlands, forest stands provide bank stabilization, nutrient input, shade, and large organic debris recruitment, which is important for fish and riparian-dependant species conservation.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources? **N/A**

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are: **N/A**

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designed (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection: such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands? **While DNR does not manage “parks”, and does not generally perform silvicultural activities on lands managed under our Natural Area Preserve or Natural Resource Conservation Area program, the 2.1 million acres of forested trust lands that the department does manage may include other environmentally sensitive areas as described in the question above. These areas are provided protection under the DNR’s HCP, Forest Resource Plan policies, and under the state’s Forest Practices rules and regulations. Silvicultural activities implemented under these proposed procedures can impact the development of habitat in these environmentally sensitive areas. However, the proposed procedures have no greater impact to environmentally sensitive areas than the current procedures.**

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are: **Silvicultural activities that implement these procedures all meet or exceed the minimum regulatory requirements in the Forest Practices Act. The department’s HCP (which applies to site-specific activities within the range of the northern spotted owl) further describes conservation strategies that the DNR will employ to protect threatened and endangered species and habitats under the ESA. The DNR has a “no net loss” policy (FRP Policy #21) for wetlands.**

The process collectively established in the proposed procedures include the following measures to safeguard environmentally sensitive and protected areas: (1) establishment of site-specific social, environmental, and economic objectives; (2) devising ecologically and financially optimal pathways to achieve these objectives through site-specific silvicultural prescriptions; and (3) a framework of standard requirements for reforestation and stand management activities as they might be needed to implement the prescriptions. More specifically, the procedure for “Silvicultural Prescriptions” provides a process for balancing quantified, measurable objectives in a realistic silvicultural prescription. The procedures for “Reforestation” and for “Forest Stand Tending” provide departmental standard requirements for achieving these objectives.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans? **Shoreline regulations will be followed in the application of these procedures. The proposed procedures will not result in changes to land use patterns or shore line uses.**

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are: **The procedures are designed to promote sustainable forest management, the responsible practice of which inherently promotes ecosystem sustainability including shorelines. Since there are no changes to shoreline or land use patterns resulting from the proposal, no mitigation is necessary.**

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities? **Does not apply.**

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are: **Not applicable**

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment. **All procedures developed by the DNR meet or exceed all state and federal laws, and the DNR’s HCP.**

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